SUMMER VACATION SPECIAL BEFORE OBON

ONESHOT CHAPTER

お盆前夏休み特別読みきり

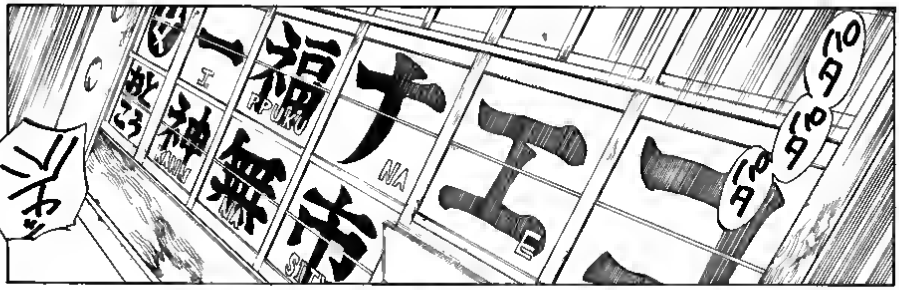
涅槃飛行少女 ナエコ

Nirvana Flight Girl Naeko

If you pass away, come back to life!

THE END OF LIFE CAME SUDDENLY.
A STRANGE PLACE. WHERE AIRPLANES SOAR.
MY NAME IS NAEKO. WHERE AM I?
I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS!
AH, WHAT A PITY, YOU'RE STILL SO YOUNG.
BUT STILL I WELCOME YOU.
FROM THIS MOMENT ON, YOU ARE "DEAD".
"0.2 HELL", A WONDERFUL FANTASY ABOUT A CONVICT, DRAWN BY WATARU REI
ALL THREE VOLUMES ON SALE NOW.

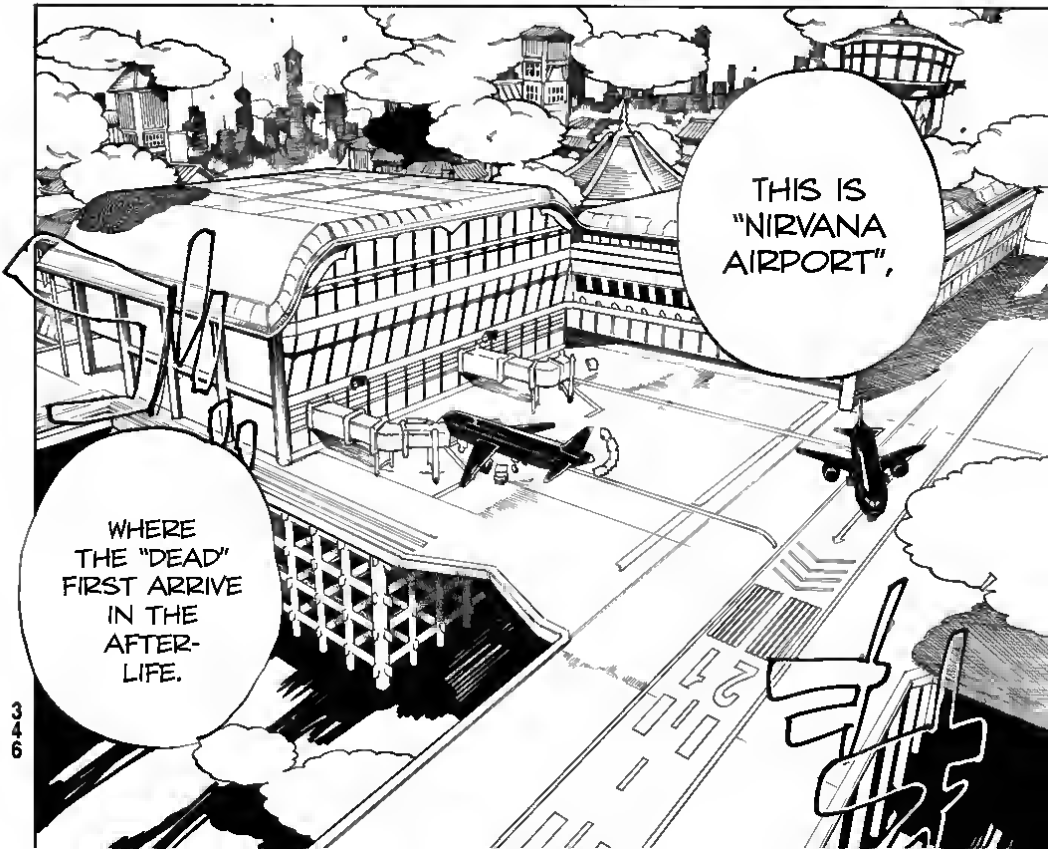
What a shame!!
As of today, you're dead!!!
...WHAT.
WHAT?


ナ
NA
一瞬
ISSHUN
神業
KAMIWAZA
おとり
OTORI
ピッ

HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
HOLD UP
HOLD UP

HEY
WAI-
WELL, YOU CAN JUST RELAX FOR NOW I HAVE TO SEE TO THE NEXT PERSON

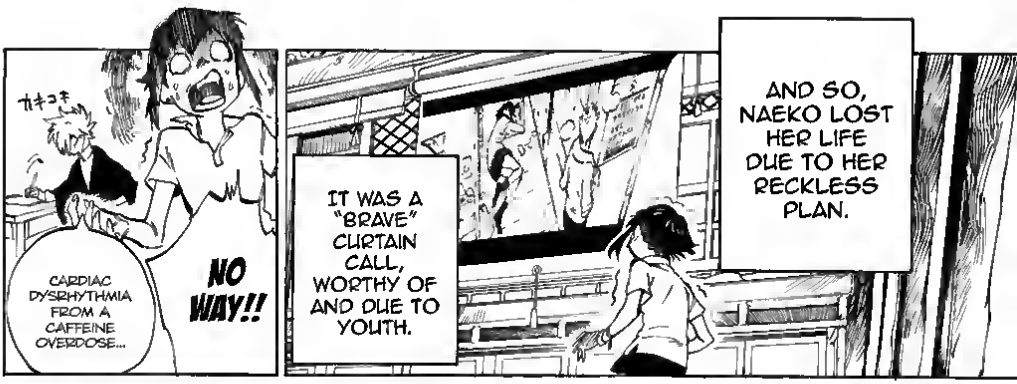
MY NAME IS NAEKO! WHERE IS THIS?!
I WAS JUST AT MY DESK, WRITING MY NOVEL TO SUBMIT TO THE ROOKIE WRITER CONTEST...
I PASS OUT, AND WOKE UP TO THIS!!
WAS I ABDUCTED? SOME SHADOW ORGANIZATION? OR MAYBE IT WAS THAT FAMOUS...
I'M SO SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOU WHILE YOU'RE BUSY PANICKING, BUT


THIS IS "NIRVANA AIRPORT",
WHERE THE "DEAD" FIRST ARRIVE IN THE AFTER-LIFE.

死帳面
YOU DIED AND THEN CAME TO US, AS DECREED HERE
IN THIS BOOK OF FATE, "THE DEATH LEDGER".
THE FERRY ACROSS THE RIVER STYX HAS BEEN MODERNIZED.
THE AFTER-LIFE?!!
NOW, WE CARRY THE DEAD ACROSS BY PLANE.
OUR JOB IS TO CARRY THE SOULS THAT DIED IN THE MORTAL WORLD TO THE AIRPORT AND DECIDE THEIR "FINAL DESTINATION" FROM HERE
MORTAL WORLD
RIVER STYX
NIRVANA AIRPORT
HELL
HEAVEN
BASICALLY WE SHUFFLE PEOPLE'S SOULS AROUND AND AROUND..
IF YOU REALLY CAN'T ACCEPT IT, DO YOU WANT TO RECALL WHAT HAPPENED?
HOW YOU DIED?

HALF A YEAR AGO
I DISCOVERED THE NOVEL THAT CHANGED MY LIFE.
空の告白
羽田川 キー
オオオォ…
フォォ
I WAS ENTHRALLED BY THE AUTHOR'S WRITING, AND I READ TO MY HEART'S CONTENT.
THEN, I FINALLY MADE UP MY MIND.
THIS IS THE PATH I MUST TAKE...!!

I'M GONNA BECOME A NOVELIST.
I CAN'T GIVE UP NOW.
I'M GONNA FIGHT PAST THIS HARDSHIP, AND...
I ONLY HAVE TWO DAYS LEFT UNTIL THE DEADLINE...
IF I DON'T ENDURE THIS, I'LL DIE, AND IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE ..!!
UGH... I'M SO SLEEPY... FIVE ALL-NIGHTERS IN A ROW WAS TOO MUCH...!!
Zo..
TO GLORY!
CROSS THE BRIDGE
NEE-CHAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HUH?


カキコキ
CARDIAC DYSRHYTHMIA FROM A CAFFEINE OVERDOSE...
NO WAY!!
IT WAS A "BRAVE" CURTAIN CALL, WORTHY OF AND DUE TO YOUTH.
AND SO, NAEKO LOST HER LIFE DUE TO HER RECKLESS PLAN.

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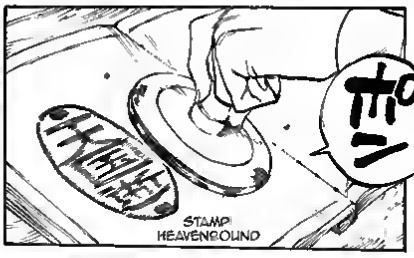
I'M THE SUPREME COMMANDER OF THIS AIRPORT.
AND WITH THAT, ENJOY YOUR AFTERLIFE VOYAGE!


ポン
STAMP
HEAVENBOUND

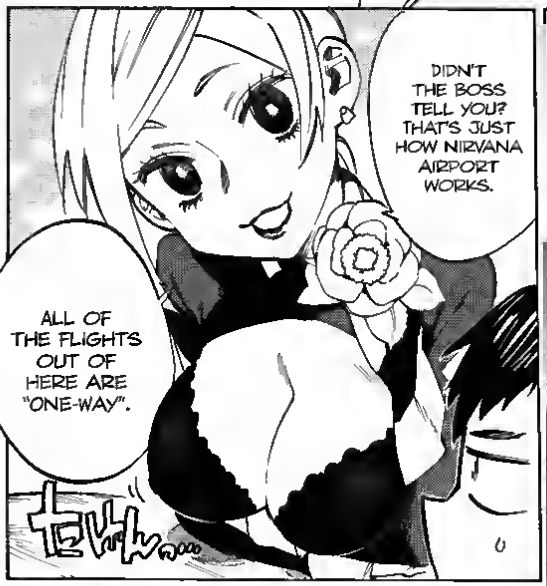
WAI-
WAIT! JUST WHO ARE...?

YOUR FLIGHT IS SCHEDULED FOR 12 O'CLOCK SHARP! TAKE CARE TO TREAT THE CAPTAIN WITH ALL DUE RESPECT.
ギょっ

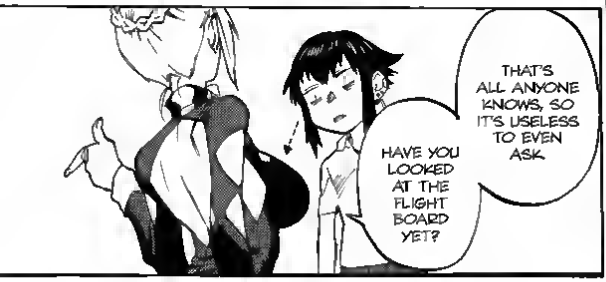
OUR SHINY BLACK PLANES WILL TAKE YOU ACROSS THE RIVER IN A JIFFY!
NIRVANA AIRPORT DELIVERS SAFETY AND SECURITY TO YOUR AFTERLIFE!
THIS IS UNACCEPT-ABLE!

ABSO-
LUTELY
UNACCEPT
ABLE!!!
NO
MATTER
WHAT!
I'M
GOING
BACK
TO LIFE

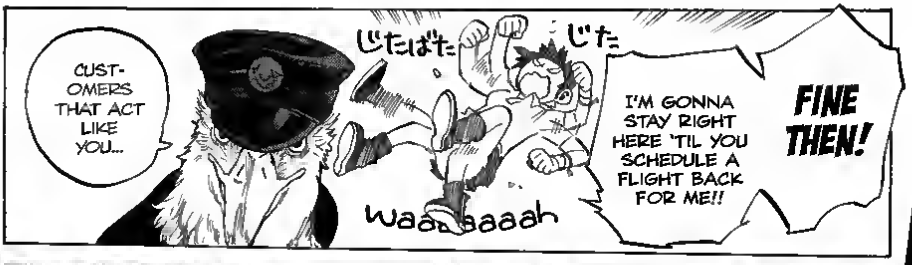
A FLIGHT BACK TO THE REAL WORLD?
THERE AREN'T ANY.


DIDN'T THE BOSS TELL YOU? THAT'S JUST HOW NIRVANA AIRPORT WORKS.
ALL OF THE FLIGHTS OUT OF HERE ARE "ONE-WAY".
ちゅん

CAN'T YOU JUST... DO SOMETHING... SOMEHOW?
THERE'S NO "NEED" FOR ONE, SO THERE'S NOTHING TO BE DONE.


HAVE YOU LOOKED AT THE FLIGHT BOARD YET?
THAT'S ALL ANYONE KNOWS, SO IT'S USELESS TO EVEN ASK.

WE KEEP HAVING TO UPDATE THE CAUSE-OF-DEATH PANEL LATELY.
I'M SICK OF ALL THE PAINT EVERY-WHERE.
出発時刻
死因
逝先
焼死
天国
地獄
自殺
EVERY FLIGHT'S "DESTINATION" IS DETERMINED BY THAT BOARD, AND THAT'S FINAL.
I DOUBT THERE'S A RETURN FLIGHT, BUT YOU CAN GO CHECK.


CUST-OMERS THAT ACT LIKE YOU...
じたばた
じた
Waaaaaaah
I'M GONNA STAY RIGHT HERE 'TIL YOU SCHEDULE A FLIGHT BACK FOR ME!!
FINE THEN!

ARE YOU OKAY WITH THAT?
人肉弁当
GET TURNED INTO OUR LUNCH...

DEATHS WRITTEN INTO THE DEATH LEDGER ARE FINAL, NO MATTER WHAT!
EVERY DESTINY THE BOSS WRITES IS FAULTLESS, SO DON'T WORRY.

THE...

NO ACCIDENTS OR DELAYS!
HE'S THE GREATEST STORYTELLER IN THE ENTIRE AFTERLIFE!

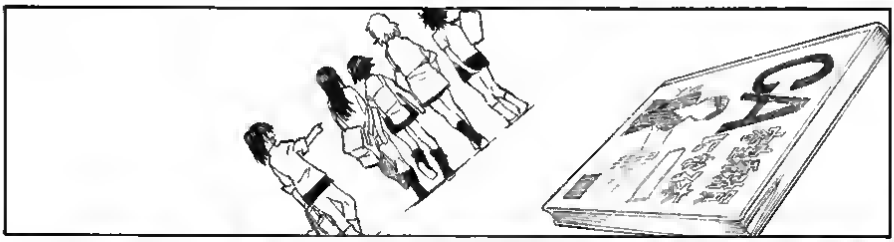
THE BOSS WRITES IT...?
IN-DEED.
HE'S ALSO THE ONE WHO WROTE CARDIAC DYSRHYTHMIA AS YOUR CAUSE-OF DEATH.

SO YOU WERE THE ONE
THAT KILLED ME?
ME?
SORRY, I'M A BIT BUSY AT THE MOMENT...
DID YOU NEED SOMETHING FROM...
OH, YOU FOUND OUT ALREADY? THAT'S TOO BAD.
WHY YOU LITTLE SNICKERING PEST!!
HOW DARE YOU MAKE ME DIE IN SUCH A PATHETIC WAY...

I SEE.
ALL FOR THE SAKE OF SOME UNCERTAIN DREAM...
I'M GONNA REWRITE IT AND UNDO THIS STUPID "DEATH"!
HAND OVER THAT BOOK!!
IT'S THE ONE AND ONLY THING I LIVE FOR!
OF COURSE!!
YOU WANT TO RETURN TO LIFE THAT BADLY, HUH?
grgh
Urgh
AND BEFORE THAT... YOU WANTED TO BE A FASHION DESIGNER. AND BEFORE THAT... AN ARCHITECT
BUT BEFORE THAT, YOUR DREAM WAS TO BECOME A CABIN ATTENDANT, RIGHT?
THAT'S A LIE.
T-THAT WAS THEN! I'M HONESTLY WORKING TO BECOME A NOVELIST AND...
AND BEFORE THAT, YOU WANTED

WHAT YOU CALL A DREAM IS NOTHING MORE THAN FANTASY.
JUST SOME CONVENIENT WORDS TO MAKE YOU SEEM LIKE A HARD WORKER.
IN TRUTH... AREN'T YOU RELIEVED TO HAVE DIED?

...



NOW YOU HAVE AN EXCUSE FOR ALL YOUR UNREALIZED DREAMS.
AN IDEAL FINALE FOR A DREAMER.
YOU COULDN'T FIGHT FATE, SO IT CAN'T BE HELPED, RIGHT?
NO...!!

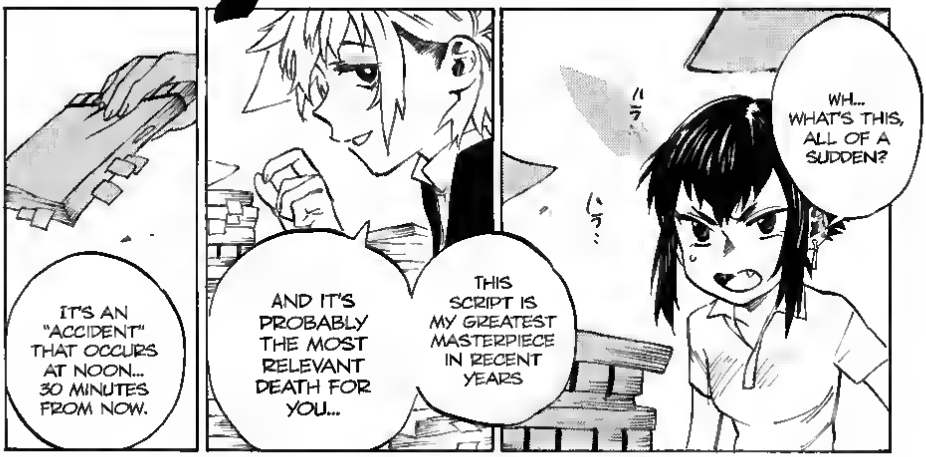
THAT NOVEL TAUGHT ME PEOPLE CAN CHANGE.
SO.. THIS TIME, I'VE MADE UP MY MIND TO GIVE IT EVERYTHING I'VE GOT AND BEAT THE ODDS.

FATE IS SOMETHING YOU SOAR OVER!

THIS IS MY DREAM TO CHANGE MY HALF-HEARTED WAYS.

HOW ABOUT THIS?
...WELL THEN,

!?


IT'S AN "ACCIDENT" THAT OCCURS AT NOON... 30 MINUTES FROM NOW.
AND IT'S PROBABLY THE MOST RELEVANT DEATH FOR YOU...
THIS SCRIPT IS MY GREATEST MASTERPIECE IN RECENT YEARS
ハラ...
ハラ...
WH... WHAT'S THIS, ALL OF A SUDDEN?

THE "KANNA CITY PLANE CRASH" OF FLIGHT JAA1501, WITH A TOTAL DEATH COUNT OF 24[illegible].
IF YOU CAN CHANGE THE SCRIPT SUCH THAT NO ONE DIES, I'LL ARRANGE A RETURN FLIGHT FOR YOU.
YOUR DREAM IS TO BECOME A NOVELIST?
NAEKO-CHAN,
find a way out of this.
try your best to

KANNA CITY (神無月) LITERALLY MEANS "GODLESS CITY".

SHIT, SHIT!
THAT GUY...!!
MY SCRIPT OF DESTINY WON'T BE OVERTURNED SO EASILY.
HE'S TRYING TO DROP A PLANE THERE
AND KILL MY ENTIRE FAMILY!
KANNA CITY IS WHERE MY HOUSE IS!!
THE DEATH LEDGER HAS 40 PAGES OF SCRIPT FOR EACH PERSON'S DEATH. 20,000 WORDS IN TOTAL!
KANNA CITY HAS A POPULATION OF 10,000 MORE THAN 200 CASUALTIES.
10,000
THE AIRPLANE WEIGHS 250 TONS AND FLIES AT 900KM/H.

AN ABSURD NUMBER OF WORDS
WHAT DO I DO IN THESE LAST THIRTY MINUTES?!
30
WHAT CAN I DO?!
ha
ha
ha
I JUST GOTTA DO IT SOME-HOW!!
Kuaaa

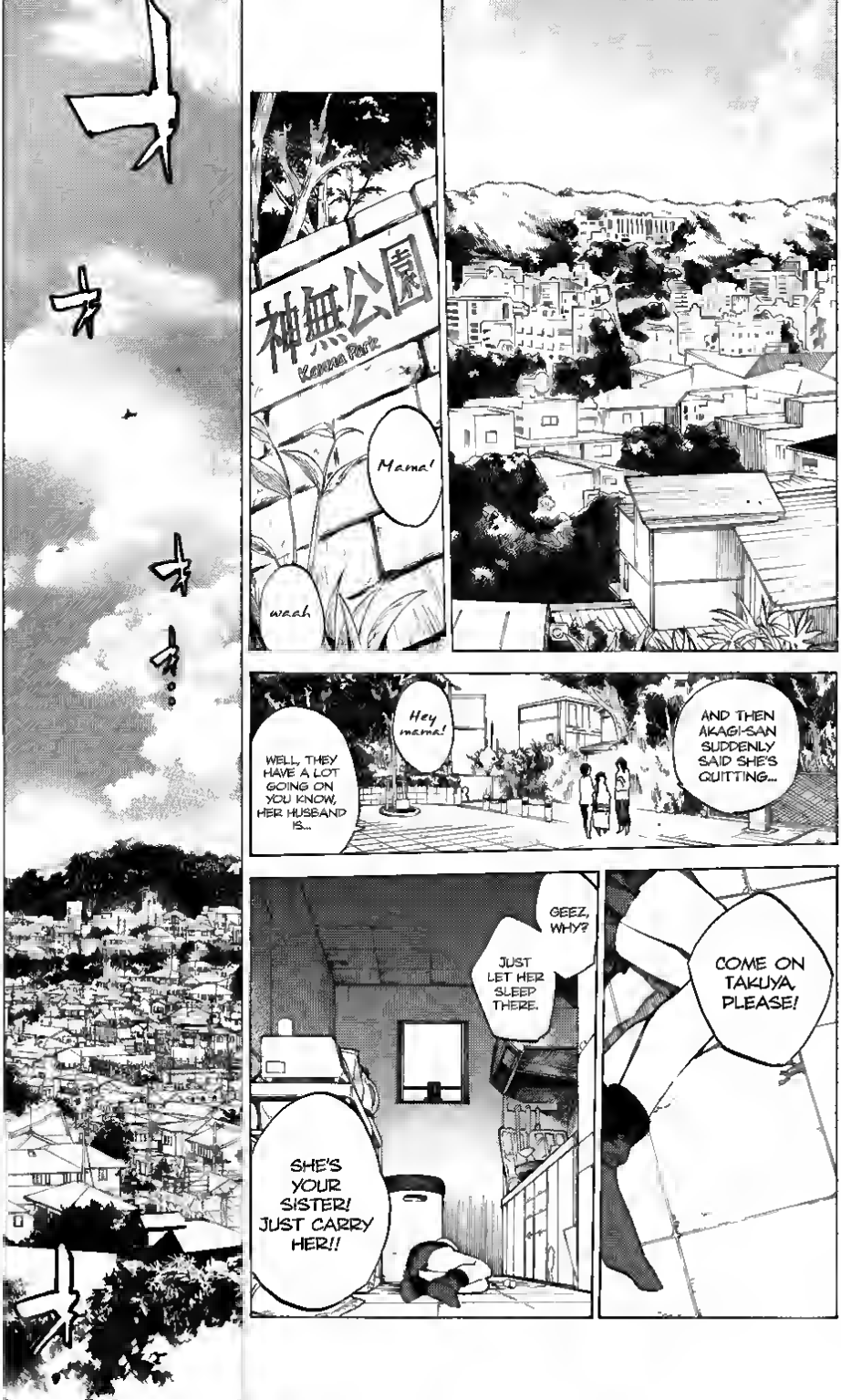
I'M TEACHING HER THE FUTILITY OF TRYING TO ALTER FATE.
SHE'LL NEVER LEARN UNLESS SHE EXPERIENCES IT FIRSTHAND.
HEY BOSS,
ARE YOU REALLY MAKING THAT GIRL REWRITE THE DEATH LEDGER? THAT'S SO MEAN!
NOT AT ALL.
ガリガリ
"The plane veered 200m to the right of downtown, and crash-landed into the river."
ガーッ
WHOA?! THE FLIGHT BOARD?!
AND SO, THERE WERE NO DEATHS!
HOW'S THAT FOR A MIRACULOUS SURVIVAL STORY?!

NO GOOD!! THE FLIGHT AND THE CASUALTIES ARE STILL THE SAME!!
神無市旅客機墜落
245
15
01便
THE CAUSE-OF-DEATH IS CHANGING, BUT IN THE END, THEY STILL DIE!!
250 TRUCKLOADS OF METAL ARE FALLING OUT OF THE SKY. HOW ELSE CAN
CRAP... I'M REALLY STARTING TO GET SCARED...!!
PEOPLE... A LOT OF PEOPLE... ARE GONNA DIE 'CAUSE OF MY WRITING...!!
WRITING THIS STUFF IS ENOUGH TO MAKE SOMEONE GO INSANE...
DAMNIT! I CAN'T GIVE UP NOW!!
DON'T GIVE UP! DON'T DIE!!
LIVE ON, AND...
ガリッ

WHAT WOULD THAT GUY DO...??
第156回
空の告白
I'M GONNA BE A CABIN... WHATEVER-IT IS.
OH SURE.
ha ha ha
S-SY... DO YOU HAVE ANY DREAMS?
EVEN THOUGH I WAS LIVING,
I LIVED LIKE I MIGHT AS WELL HAVE BEEN DEAD
LIKE, SERIOUSLY!

I WAS COMPLETELY APATHETIC.
I MOCKED HOPES AND DREAMS AS STUPID THINGS.
I GAVE UP ON ANY DESIRES I HAD, SINCE I COULDN'T DO THEM ANYWAY.
Hadagawa Tokiichi had this to say upon receiving his award:
With his novel "Confessions of the sky", he's the youngest-ever winner of the Chagawa Award.
THE SAME AGE AS ME...
He's only 17 years old!
I FIGURED THAT, AT THAT POINT, THERE WASN'T ANYTHING THAT COULD MAKE AN IMPRESSION ON ME.

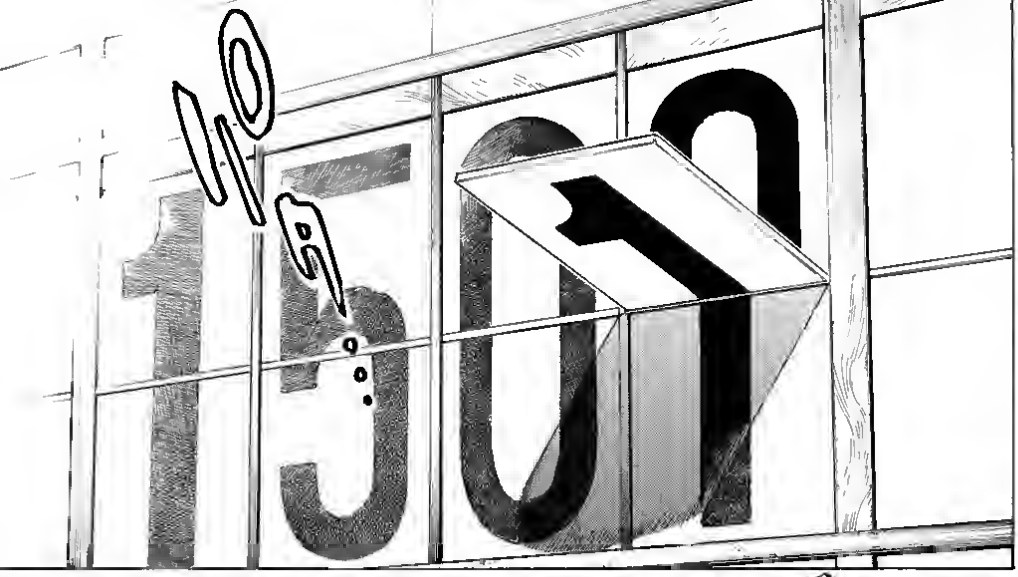
Father, Mother, thank you
Please forgive that this must be my "final work"
THE WRITER, WHO WAS THE SAME AGE AS ME, HAD BEEN FATALLY ILL.
BUT THE WORDS OF THIS DYING PERSON WERE MORE "ALIVE" THAN ANYONE ELSE'S.
...FOR REAL?
MAYBE I COULD DO IT TOO.

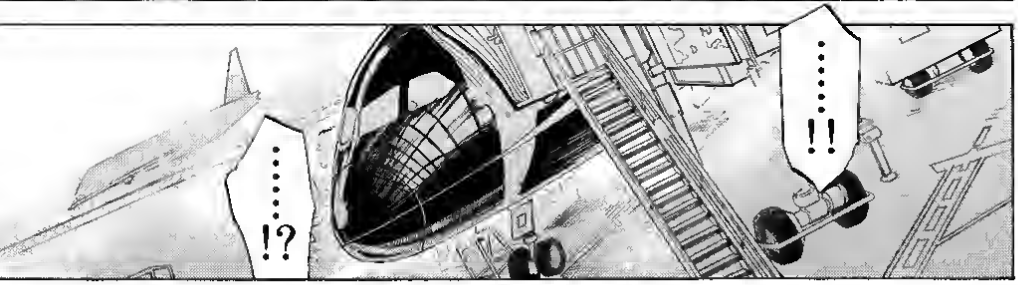

神無公園
Kamina Park
Mama!
waah
Hey mama!
AND THEN AKAGI-SAN SUDDENLY SAID SHE'S QUITTING...
WELL, THEY HAVE A LOT GOING ON YOU KNOW, HER HUSBAND IS...
GEEZ, WHY?
JUST LET HER SLEEP THERE.
SHE'S YOUR SISTER! JUST CARRY HER!!
COME ON TAKUYA, PLEASE!

"Please tell us how you were feeling as you wrote this"
LIVING IS REALLY HARD WORK, YOU KNOW?
PEOPLE SAY THEY'RE MY FRIENDS,
BUT THEN THEY ALL GO ON AHEAD WITH THEIR OWN TWO FEET,
AND I FEEL LIKE I'M ALWAYS LEFT SITTING ALONE.
FOR A PERSON WITHOUT ANY-THING,
LIKE ME,
TO CATCH UP, I THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT I NEEDED TO DO,
AND I REALIZED, I HAVE TO FLY.

I...
HAVE TO
SOAR
TOO...
10
9
FATE IS
SOMETHING
YOU HAVE TO
SOAR OVER!

LOOKS LIKE TIME'S UP.
ゴ
オ
SO, THAT GIRL COULDN'T DO ANYTHING... AND HERE'S THE PLANE.
THIS IS FLIGHT 1501, LANDED SAFELY.
ROGER THAT, OVER.
GOOD, GOOD, THAT'S THE WHOLE POINT OF HAVING AN AIRPORT IN NIRVANA.
501
03
21


1501


!?
!!

I...IS IT REALLY OKAY TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS?!
ABOUT FLIGHT 1501, WITH ALL THE CRASH VICTIMS.
YEAAH? WHAT'S UP?
BOSS... BOSS!!
THIS IS FLIGHT CONTROL SPEAKING...

WH-
THEY'RE CHANGING COURSE
AND PLOTTING A ROUTE BACK TO THE REAL WORLD.

IT COULDN'T BE...?!!
I'LL CONTACT THE PILOT TO INVESTIGATE THE REASON FOR THIS.
WHY?!
BOSS'S SCRIPT WAS FLAW-LESS...!!

SHE CHANGED FATE!!
SHE REWROTE IT...?
NAEKO-CHAN!
BLAM
WH... WHAT?
WHAT KIND OF FATE DID YOU...
SENDING THAT MANY PEOPLE BACK TO LIFE...
HOW... WHAT DID YOU CHANGE?!

THE SCRIPT YOU WROTE
!
WAS PERFECT.
NO MATTER WHAT, SOMEONE WOULD DIE.
AND THERE WEREN'T ANY HOLES TO FILL WITH CHEAP WRITING
YOU HAD ME BEAT THERE.
NOTHING HAS BEEN CHANGED ANYWHERE...
ペタ
WHAT?
HUH?
PAINT...?
THERE'S A LITTLE RULE IN AIRPORTS...
ザラララッ

ALL OF THE FLIGHTS OUT OF HERE ARE "ONE-WAY".
AND YOUR UNDERLING TOLD ME SOMETHING INTERESTING ABOUT THIS AIRPORT...
?
OUTBOUND FLIGHTS GET ODD NUMBERS.
NO ONE NOTICED, SINCE THEY JUST BLINDLY FOLLOW THE FLIGHT BOARD.
AND RETURN FLIGHTS HAVE EVEN NUMBERS.
ESPECIALLY WHEN "DEATH" IS ALL THAT'S ON THEIR MINDS!
神無市旅客機墜落
死亡者数
245名
15C

1502
SH...SHE DIRECTLY
REWROTE THE FLIGHT NUMBER AND MADE IT INTO A RETURN FLIGHT?
AND NIRVANA WORKERS WOULDN'T KNOW HOW TO RESPOND.
THE PLANES FLY AS THE FLIGHT BOARD DICTATES!!
THAT'S RIGHT... THE DEATH LEDGER DICTATES FATE UP UNTIL DEATH. AFTER THAT...

IT WAS YOUR DREAM, HUH?
BUT HOW DID SHE KNOW ABOUT FLIGHT NUMBER RULES...?
..hahh
I GUESS I LOSE.
ALL NIRVANA FLIGHTS ARE BOOKED FULL OF RESERVATIONS. ARRANGING A RETURN FLIGHT IS GOING TO BE A REAL HASSLE.
I KNOW! I WON'T TAKE UP ANY MORE OF YOUR TIME... BESIDES,
BACK IN THE REAL WORLD, I HAVE A DEADLINE TO MEET!!

YOU WIN, NAEKO-CHAN, ALL THANKS TO YOUR DREAMS.
I GUESS WE FINALLY HAVE TO DIGITIZE THIS PLACE.

IF I HAD BEEN A SORE LOSER LIKE YOU,
I WONDER IF I WOULD STILL BE ABLE TO CHASE MY OWN DREAMS, TOO...

HOW...
HOW ARE... WE STILL ALIVE...?
Hee...
Heee
Hee
MOM, ARE YOU OKAY?!
Kuh
ekuh
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, IS NAEKO?
ALRI...

Half a year later: The girl who miraculously survived
Highschooler Wins Chagawa Award
Flew off toward her dream.
Nirvana Flight
Ippuku Naeko
奇跡の生
Please look forward to Wataru-sensei's next piece!
東京都・大破

—FIN—